

**TOWNSHIP OF WEST ORANGE  
PLANNING BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 4, 2018**

The Township of West Orange Planning Board held a regular meeting on April 4, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. in the Council Chamber, 66 Main Street, West Orange, New Jersey.

Chairman Bagoff called the meeting to order at approximately 7:33 P.M. He announced that notification of the meeting was given to the Township Clerk, and posted on the Township Bulletin Board, sent to the West Orange Chronicle and the Star Ledger, and posted on the Township's website calendar. This meeting has been properly noticed to the public in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. No new matters will start after 10:30 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Bagoff requested all persons stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Planning Board regular meeting will be May 2, 2018 in the Council Chamber at 7:30 P.M.

**ROLL CALL**

- PRESENT:** Chairman Robert Bagoff  
John Cardoza  
Captain Michael Keigher  
Council President Susan McCartney  
Gary Wegner  
Vice Chairman Ron Weston  
William Wilkes II
- ABSENT:** Tekeste Ghebremicael  
Lee Klein  
Andrew Trenk
- ALSO PRESENT:** Patrick J. Dwyer, Esq., Board Attorney  
Robin Miller, Board Secretary  
Harvey Grossman, Esq., Public Advocate

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Mr. Dwyer administered the Oath of Office to Captain Keigher.

**ADOPT MINUTES**

The minutes of the February 7, 2018 Planning Board meeting were unanimously adopted.

**RESOLUTION(S)**

- i. Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing with the Planning Board a Matter of Litigation-Malanga v. Township of West Orange Planning Board
- ii. Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing with the Planning Board a Matter of Litigation-Daniel v. Township of West Orange Planning Board

The Board voted on the Resolutions as follows:

**Motion:** Bagoff

**Second:** Weston

Cardoza	Yes	Wegner:	Yes
Ghebremicael:	Absent	Weston:	Yes
Klein:	Absent	Wilkes:	Yes
Keigher:	Yes	Bagoff:	Yes
McCartney:	Yes		
Trenk:	Absent		

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Bagoff recessed the Public Meeting at approximately 7:38 P.M. for the purpose of an Executive Session.

Mr. Dwyer stated the information discussed during Executive Session would be made available to the Public when the matters were resolved.

Chairman Bagoff reconvened the Public Meeting at approximately 8:03 P.M.

**DISCUSSION**

Discussion of Public Meeting held on February 22, 2018 by the County of Essex concerning the Master Plan being created for the Turtle Back Zoo.

Chairman Bagoff stated Captain Keigher and Mr. Carzoda had attended the meeting; he asked them to share their observations with the Board.

Captain Keigher opined the County had a long way to go; he did not believe a full plan had been developed; it was still in its infancy. The Board should move forward cautiously.

Mr. Cardoza stated there was mention of the zoo having further meetings with other shareholder groups, but did not identify those groups. He opined the meeting was somewhat of an extension of an "olive branch" to the Township and residents of West Orange. He agreed that there was work to be done to complete the plan; there were many ideas but nothing definitive; including options for additional parking.

Vice Chairman Weston stated the meeting provided internal zoological information more than land use planning that would affect our community. The County had stated that a Traffic Study but would be initiated; but had not yet been started. Information was not provided about how the plan would affect the surrounding community. He opined that issues and concerns of the Public discussed during the Board hearings of County projects were not addressed at the meeting. He stated that at the meeting he had commented that if the County continued to expand the zoo and take land from the reservation, they should consider using Open Space Trust Fund money to offset the loss by preserving other land.

Mr. Wegner asked if the County had indicated when the plan would be completed. Chairman Bagoff said it was his understanding that the plan was still in development but there would not be further public hearings. Vice Chairman Weston said that at a prior Board hearing the County had made the commitment to present the plan to the Board at some future point. He opined the next County application might trigger that opportunity.

Chairman Bagoff stated for the record that on February 22, 2018 he sent a letter to Anthony Puglisi, Director, Office of Public Information, County of Essex, about points the Board had discussed at the February 7, 2018 regular meeting.

Chairman Bagoff directed the Secretary to provide the Board the list of Open Space properties in the Township, including those purchased subsequent to the Open Space and Recreation Plan Update, June 2010.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at approximately 8:23 P.M.

Minutes adopted May 2, 2018.



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Robin Miller, Secretary  
Township of West Orange Planning Board

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD WILL BE  
WEDNESDAY JUNE 6, 2018 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.**